# Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts



# WHO WILL BENEFIT

**School Administrators** 

**Principals** 

**Teachers** 

**School Boards** 

Parent-Teacher Associations

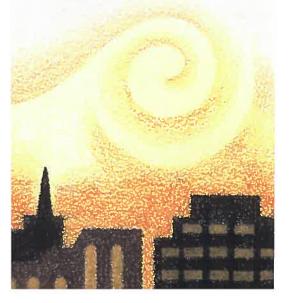
Judges

**Court Administrators** 

**Police** 

Juvenile Justice Departments

**Social Service Professionals** 



# Implementing a Proven Truancy Court Program

Do you need to reduce truancy in your schools? An early intervention program that leverages the stature and authority of volunteer judges to help students stay in school can deliver significant results:

out of 10 students substantially increase attendance and improve grades and behaviors!

Truancy is the first and best indicator that a student is headed for trouble. Statistics show that habitual truancy is the beginning of a downward spiral: truancy, poor performance on standardized tests, falling behind socially, losing interest in and connection to school, dropping out, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and, eventually, adult criminality. That's why communities across the country are working hard to reduce truancy.

The University of Baltimore School of Law Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) has developed an innovative Truancy Court Program (TCP) that engages volunteer judges in an intensive 10–14 week, in-school program for elementary, middle and high school students. Volunteer judges work with a TCP social worker, a TCP attorney, a TCP mentor, a TCP coordinator, service providers, teachers and school administrators to identify the reasons why students are missing school. The goal is not to punish students but to understand and address the problems underlying truant behavior.

With a twelve-year track record, CFCC's Truancy Court Program is proven and tested. The TCP has operated in over 40 schools in Maryland. In the 2016–2017 school year, for example, the program served more than 150 students and their families in four Maryland schools. Seventy percent of these students graduated from the TCP, achieving a minimum 65 percent reduction in absences and/or tardies, and demonstrating improved academics and behavior. Follow-up research also shows that students continue their progress after finishing the program.

Now a step-by-step guide is available that will enable you to implement this effective program in your schools. There are two ways you can bring this successful program to schools in your community.

### **ABOUT CFCC**

The University of Baltimore School of Law Sayra and Neil Meyerhoff Center for Families, Children and the Courts (CFCC) is a national leader in the movement to reform the family justice system. CFCC works to integrate communities, families and the justice system to improve the lives of families and the health of the community.

CFCC is dedicated to resolving family problems in a therapeutic, ecological and service-based manner. Led by Barbara A. Babb, Director and Associate Professor of Law, and Gloria Danziger, Senior Fellow, CFCC uses a holistic approach to solve real-world problems by considering all the different systems affecting the lives of families and children.

SAYRA AND NEIL MEYERHOFF CENTER FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND THE COURTS

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# Buy the Truancy Court Program Toolkit, 2nd Edition

The valuable tools and resources developed for the CFCC Truancy Court Program are available for implementation in your own community. The **Truancy Court Program Toolkit**, **2nd Edition**, shows you how to start and maintain this effective program.

Here is a sampling of what the Truancy Court Program Toolkit contains:

- » Detailed descriptions of the roles of each member of the Truancy Court Program team, including action items and recommendations
- » Step-by-step guide to implementation, from student selection to graduation
- Comprehensive collection of useful forms, including the school application form, sample invitation letter to parents, consent form, evaluation/assessment forms and weekly teacher reports
- » A guide to commonly encountered legal and social issues and solutions



Order your copy today



## **Buy the Complete Truancy Court Program Implementation Package**

If you are ready to begin implementation of a comprehensive truancy reduction program, consider ordering the complete **Truancy Court Program Implementation Package**.

It contains:

- » 5 copies of the Truancy Court Program Toolkit, 2nd Edition, to share with your team
- » 5 hours of implementation coaching via telephone and e-mail with our field experts CFCC staff and advisors who have established Truancy Court Programs throughout Maryland
- » The Truancy Court Program Mentor Manual, which provides a blueprint for setting up a TCP mentoring program

Order today



More Options: CFCC offers intensive technical assistance, consulting and support for the implementation and operation of a Truancy Court Program in your community. Schedule an appointment to discuss your needs by emailing cfcc@ubalt.edu.

YES! I want to buy:	<ul> <li>Truancy Court Program Toolkit, 2nd Edition</li> <li>The Complete Truancy Court Program Implementation Package</li> </ul>			
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